

Petty asked several times to go back to you, and said, "yes, mamma, I do want to go back to Papa!"

God keep you
darling, and
bring you to
us soon, soon
to have us again
while ~~the~~ ^{we} live
on earth;
truly ours
in another and
better world.
Gladly
Dear Husband,

Angela

Watson O. May 18th.
1863

Your letter came this evening, but I nearly missed it, for I expected Henriette to get it, fearing she might forget - I rode to the office in time to secure it.

I was so anxious to tell you all the true news, that I neglected to tell you how much pleased the children were with their presents. Ella could scarcely keep her hands off of the doll for some time, and was highly indignant at our neighbor's children for saying it was wasn't pretty, and that Mary German's was a great deal prettier; she said she had seen Mary's doll and it was it any thing like as pretty. There was a general quarrel I believe one of the boys did something to Frank and

I heard that Rob knocked his brother's ass ~~down~~
down!

The pop-gun pleased Frank exceedingly,
even the noisy part; Rob was no less
pleased, you know he had not seen it pre-
viously. — Poor little Frank is almost
as full as when I left him, in consequence
of this heavy cold; Lib says that before
that came on she thought he was really
going to be fleshy; and told him she
didn't think his mother would know him.

He now coughs a good deal and lies
down frequently. His appetite is poor
and very capricious; today I have given
him oranges which delighted him, and
I have promised him pears and figs.

These things he likes and will suit
his constipated bowels. His Grandfather
takes him to ride a great deal, and I
hope soon to report him better.

We stopped at Eliza's door this evening and
found several of them sick with this

prevalent cold; Dr. W. says it is not Whooping
cough, but it closely resembles it in some
cases. Poor Tommy was standing, looking dis-
consolately out of the window. He lost his
voice entirely for some days.

Bessie Fries is quite sick with intermittent
fever. — The children both at Lib's and
'the sisters' seemed to like their pictures,
Mellie was particularly glad when she found
her butterflies were named.

Inadvertently, I put a picture of China in
Bessie's collection, which just suited her, as
you may recollect she proposes to visit that
country when she has dug deep enough.

The children were in bed when I got home, but
quickly aroused, and could with difficulty be
persuaded to remain in bed till sunrise
home. They Frank had been accused of wanting
to see his wax more than his mother, and told
not to ask immediately for it; he said, no
he would wait half an hour; this he did
and then stole quietly up and whispered

his question very softly indeed; it would have
been too bad not to have heed it for him.
He cuts and moulds at a great rate.
Sella has quite a talent for the Art, and
surprised me with three or four small flowers
of her own manufacture; but I was particu-
larly gratified with her last production; two eve-
nings she worked hard at a Collinsia, (the
little blue and white flowers that grow so profu-
sely at the Conover house) it was a difficult-
flower to make, never the less she persevered,
pulled the flower to pieces, at her own per-
turns, and produced a flower that Mary says
is better than those she was taught to make!
She is very quick to learn; affectionate with
almost every one, particularly so with Robby and
me; but really ugly at times with little Frank
which is a sad thing to me; I believe it
is best to keep them apart as much as
possible, and not allow their interests to
clash too much. I have put Robby to sleep
with Sella, and keep Frank with me.

The town is quiet now, but all are arm-

wisely awaiting the Tallendygham decision.

Mary says she sent you a paper containing an account of the Post. Have you received it?

I will send you a Cincinnati paper containing an account of Howard's expedition.

I fear ~~that~~ ~~part~~ was the only successful part however, as later news announces the capture of 'Straits' force, and Col. Sprague was cooperating with him in the first place.

We had another letter from Howard last evening dated May 7th. - He merely wrote to say that he had started \$200.00 home.

The "Major" had been obliged to send in his resignation, wherefore he did not say but promised an explanation sometime.

We found out accidentally that H. had been sick, but I believe he is all right again. - I saw Uncle John this evening and he promised to come in but has not done so.

What shall I do about the fence, Father said the price for painting or priming

was so high that he wished to ask you first,
\$20.00 for painting, \$9.00 for priming.

The taxes, are not yet settled, Father thinks
they will be much higher than usual, and
that it cannot be helped.

We have been talking over our expenses
and are going to try the following plan.
The rent for whole house is taken at \$30.00
I have, my room, Sella's, bath, room and
storeroom, with use of all the house,
so that takes off \$150.00. Then I pay the
housewoman, which is now \$1.00 per week but
will probably be \$1.50 after while. My own
fuel and if gas is introduced into the
whole of the house half of that expense.
I shall burn it into my room at any rate.
We inquired of Mrs. Holt, and found her
gas bills never exceeded \$2.75 per month
is generally much less. — This is smaller
than one's need to be, and we will try
to be as economical as she is. — I wish besides
this to give Betty .25 per week as she is expect-

ed to wait on my room, and sometimes
look after the children.

This is the plan we will try, I hope it will
work well and be satisfactory all round.

I know it is cheaper for me than boarding
elsewhere would be or than keeping house
alone would be; and I hope our real
expenses. My Mother and Father will be covered
more than that they do not wish.

Be sure you tell me what you think of
this and answer all questions.

Mary has just rushed down stairs to tell Mother
that you didn't send her a kiss; you wrote
"and another Sella, Frank and Robby with
kisses for me". I read it "get Mother, Sella
Frank and Robby kisses from me." Mary
said she thought that leaving her and Father
out was very pointed and pretended great anger.
hence her pretended joy and triumph over
Mother. — I'll send love, and Mother says
tell you that they are trying to keep your
'treasures' for you.

The Colonel came to see me twice the day I left; the first time he merely handed in a paper of candy for Robby; the next time he sat and talked some minutes, ^{and} sent word to Mary never to marry an officer. He sent his orderly to see about the cars and behaved very well; was however feeling badly about the news. — Mrs. Stacy called and offered his services. Remember me to them and ^{the} Captain also to Mrs. McCreeth the Vanderpoorts, Stamps and any who care to inquire for me.

If you ever have any opportunity, do send us or bring us small plants of the Polonia tree, (it looks like catalpa but has the purple flowers) seeds may do if you cannot get plants.

Mr. Phillips has not succeeded with his but Mother and Mrs. Stevens wish to try different situations.

It is late Tuesday, — do write very often, it will help us both to bear this separation better.

Tell me just how you are situated, and how well Emma cleared the quarters for you. Robby was very busy writing a letter to Emma Brown yesterday but I did not think it necessary to send it.

[MAY 14, 1863]

Thursday - Uncle John has just been in and says he will do what you wish.

I don't know whether I have made the boarding business clear - We give the house and pay ^{boards} what may sometimes amount to \$10.00 a month I have the run of the ^{whole} house, and the only one who is not crowded in my private rooms

receive, board for myself and children, ^{gas & fuel} washing,
and such attention as pleases me best and
that I could not get elsewhere. So that clear
and is it satisfactory? — Send on the Machine
for I have stepped right into summer, and
not one of the children prepared for it. — I scarcely
know where to begin. — Have been very busily and
fatiguingly engaged since my arrival in unpacking
and arranging my effects. — Frank seems brighter
this morning and is sunning in the yard.

Then more Goodbye Dearest. ^{a.} How many stamps are
needed on such letters?